

REMARKS

By the above amendments, multiple dependencies have been removed and the claims have been placed in more conventional U.S. format.

Early and favorable consideration of the subject application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: 

Ronald L. Grudziecki
for Registration No. 24,970

Reg. No. 43,255

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620

Date: May 26, 2000